



503.30414C27 RECEIVED

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Applicant(s): KATO, et al.

Serial No.: 09/767,834

Filed: January 24, 2001

For: VACUUM PROCESSING APPARATUS AND OPERATING  
METHOD THEREFOR

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 & §1.98**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

May 29, 2001

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find a copy of a reference to be considered by the Examiner during prosecution of the above-identified application. Also enclosed is an English abstract of this document. Further enclosed is Form, substantially equivalent to Form PTO-1449, listing this enclosed document.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted prior to a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified application. Accordingly, the requirements of 37 CFR §1.97(b) are clearly satisfied.

The enclosed document is not in English; however, requirements of 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) are satisfied by the enclosed English abstract. At the very least, the English abstract should be considered during examination of the above-identified application.

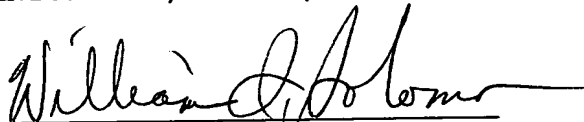
In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with the presently

submitted document. Accordingly, consideration of the listed document, upon examination of the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 503.30414C27) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William I. Solomon", written over a horizontal line.

William I. Solomon  
Registration No. 28,565

1300 North Seventeenth Street  
Suite 1800  
Arlington, VA 22209  
Tel.: 703-312-6600  
Fax.: 703-312-6666

WIS:alw